

REMARKS

Upon approval of the undersigned's request for entry of the present amendment adding new claims 72-91, claims 71-91 will be pending. Previously pending and unamended claim 71 was rejected as being anticipated by Wilson, Sloop, and Jacobi. In light of the amendment and following comments, the rejections are respectfully requested to be withdrawn.

Claim 71

Claim 71 has been amended to add a step of localizing a housing to an object other than to the portable electronic device. Sloop and Jacobi are both anti-access devices for preventing unauthorized access inside the secured system. There is no teaching or suggestion to localize the devices. In Sloop, the utility meter is secured to a wall of building, and hence does not need to be localized. Additionally, and in this sense, Sloop is not a portable electronic device, as the only time that it need be secured is when it is attached to a building and operational. In Jacobi, to the extent that a refrigerator is a portable electronic device, the issue addressed is not anti-theft of the refrigerator, but anti-access to the contents of the refrigerator. Therefore, the undersigned requests withdrawal of the rejection of claim 71 based upon Sloop/Jacobi.

With respect to Wilson, previously pending claim 71 was not anticipated by the teaching as Wilson provides for a single screw to engage a wall of a device. The rejection, in this case, equates a security slot to the screw hole. The rejection interprets definitions for certain claimed elements (i.e., slot and pin) contradictory to their everyday meaning without explanation as to where such special meaning is supported by the specification or drawings. For example, a slot is a narrow opening or slit, and a pin is a short stiff wire, rod or something resembling a wire or rod in shape or use. The Wilson aperture is not a slot, and the second element 26 is not a pin. The rejection's characterization of second element 26 as being cylindrical fails to properly characterize the element as a pin. Additionally, the claim recites

|| Murray, Jr., et al.
Application No.: 09/602,879
Page 6

that the pin is coupled to the slot engagement member to inhibit rotation of the engagement member to the unlocked position. Second element 26 does not inhibit rotation of the connector in any fashion. It appears that second element 26 inhibits access to the connector.

Assuming *arguendo* that the screw hole satisfies this limitation (which applicant challenges), claim 71 recites an operational mode for the locking member into the security slot, and Wilson does not teach, suggest or provide for the claimed interaction of components. There is no motivation or suggestion to adapt Wilson to satisfy this limitation, hence the undersigned requests withdrawal of the rejection of claim 71 based upon Wilson.

New Claim 72

New claim 72, dependent from claim 71, is patentable for at least the same reasons as the parent claim.

New Claims 73-91

New claims 73-91 expressly recite characteristics of the security slot (e.g., generally rectangular and 3mmx7mm) that are not taught or suggested in the prior art of record. Additionally, other claims further recite other distinguishing features from the prior art of record, therefore the undersigned respectfully requests an indication that new claims 73-91 are patentable.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

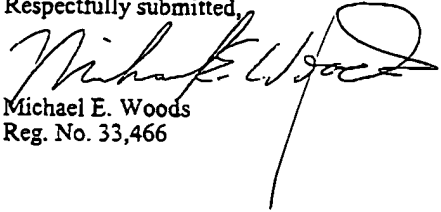
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance.

|| Murray, Jr., et al.
Application No.: 09/602,879
Page 7

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-393-2000.

Respectfully submitted,


Michael E. Woods
Reg. No. 33,466

McCutchen, Doyle, Brown & Enersen LLP
Three Embarcadero Center, 18th Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-4067
Tel: (415) 393-2000
Fax: (415) 393-2286

|| Murray, Jr., et al.
Application No.: 09/602,879
Page 8

"Version with markings to show changes made,

In the Claims:

1 71. (Amended) An attachment method, comprising:
2 abutting a housing proximate to a security slot defined in a wall of a portable
3 electronic device, said housing including a slot engagement member having a slot engaging
4 portion provided with a locking member having a peripheral profile complementary to
5 preselected dimensions of said security slot to thereby permit said locking member to extend
6 into said slot,
7 said slot engagement member being rotatable between an unlocked position
8 wherein said locking member is removable from the slot, and a locked position wherein said
9 locking member is retained with the slot;
10 extending said locking member into said security slot when said slot
11 engagement member is in said unlocked position;
12 rotating said slot engagement member into said locked position while said
13 locking member is in said security slot; and
14 coupling a pin with said slot engagement member after said slot engagement
15 member is in said locked position to thereby inhibit rotation of said slot engagement member
16 to said unlocked position; and
17 localizing said housing to an object other than said portable electronic device.

21387382v1